Appl. No. 10/634,417
Response Dated December 4, 2007
Reply to Office Action of September 4, 2007

Docket No.: 1020.P17472
Examiner: Chery, Dady
TC/A.U. 2616

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of determining when to initiate a channel access comprising:

initiating a channel access for at least one of a plurality of queues, each queue corresponding to a receiver address of a received packet, if at least one of the following has occurred:

a timer associated with a transmit queue has expired; and

a count associated with a transmit queue has exceeded a threshold.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the threshold is set for a queue.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the threshold is set for a plurality of queues.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

detecting a first packet stored into an empty queue; and

starting a timer associated with the queue.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

storing at least one packet in a queue; and

maintaining a count of the amount of data in the queue.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a transmit queue from a group of eligible transmit queues, each transmit queue corresponding to a receiver address of a received packet, for transmission:

determining if any of the eligible queues have a timer expired;

selecting one of the queues having an expired timer if there is an eligible queue having an expired timer;

otherwise, determining if any of the eligible queues have a count that exceeds a threshold; and

selecting one of the queues having a count that exceeds the threshold if there is an eligible queue having a count that exceeds the threshold.

7. (Original) A method of claim 6 and further comprising:

otherwise, selecting a non-empty queue.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 and further comprising:

detecting a first packet stored in a queue; and

starting a timer associated with the queue.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6 and further comprising:

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storing at least one packet in a queue; and

maintaining a count of the amount of data in the queue.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the count represents an amount of at least one of packets and bytes.

11. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the selecting one of the queues having a count comprises selecting one of the queues having a greatest count.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the selecting one of the queues having an expired timer comprises selecting the eligible queue having a timer that expired the longest ago.

13. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the selecting one of the queues having an expired timer comprises selecting the eligible queue having an expired timer that has the oldest data in the queue.

14. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the selecting one of the queues having an expired timer comprises selecting the eligible queue having at least one of:

an expired timer that has the oldest data in the queue;

having a timer that expired the longest ago; and

a combination of an expired timer that has the oldest data in the queue and that expired the longest ago.

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15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein a queue is eligible based on comparing the queue and status of the queue to channel access rules.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein queue eligibility is defined based on queues assigned to packets of a specified priority.

17. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining when to initiate a channel access comprising:

initiating a channel access if at least one of the following has occurred:

a timer associated with a transmit queue has expired; and

a count associated with a transmit queue has exceeded a threshold;

and

selecting a transmit queue from a group of eligible transmit queues for

transmission, each transmit queue corresponding to a receiver address of a received

packet.

18. (Original) The method of 17 wherein the selecting a transmit queue from a

group determining if any of the eligible queues have a timer expired;

selecting one of the queues having an expired timer if there is an eligible queue

having an expired timer;

otherwise, determining if any of the eligible queues have a count that exceeds a

threshold; and

selecting one of the queues having a count that exceeds the threshold if there is an

eligible queue having a count that exceeds the threshold.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a transmit queue for

transmission, comprising:

determining if any of the queues are eligible based on channel access rules, each

queue corresponding to a receiver address of a received packet;

if there are eligible queues, then determining if any of the eligible queues have a

timer expired;

selecting one of the queues having an expired timer if there is an eligible queue

having an expired timer;

otherwise, determining if any of the eligible queues have a count that exceeds a

threshold; and

selecting one of the queues having a count that exceeds the threshold if there is an

eligible queue having a count that exceeds the threshold.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a transceiver;

at least one transmit queue, each queue corresponding to a receiver address of a

received packet and including a count indicating an amount of data in the queue, and a

threshold;

a timer associated with each of said transmit queue; and

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wherein the apparatus is adapted to initiate a channel access if the timer of one of the

queues has expired or the count of one of the queues exceeds the threshold.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a transceiver;

a plurality of transmit queues, each queue corresponding to a receiver address of a

received packet and including a count indicating an amount of data in the queue, and a

threshold;

a timer associated with each of said transmit queue; and

wherein the apparatus is adapted to select one of the at least one of the transmit

queues having an expired timer if a queue has an expired timer, and otherwise, to select

one of the at least one of the transmit queues having a count that exceeds the threshold if

one of the queues has a count that exceeds the threshold.